

REMARKS

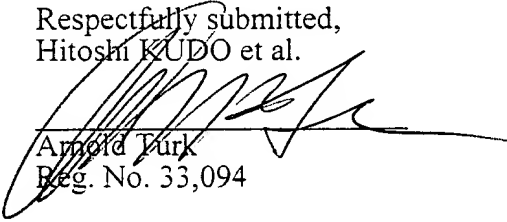
By the above amendment, the dependency of claim 3 has been changed from claim 2 to 1, so that claim 3 does not depend upon canceled claim 2.

Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment is properly enterable after allowance of the application. In this regard, Applicants note that the above-noted error in claim dependency was not noticed until receipt of the Notice of Allowance, and is therefore timely presented at this time. Further, consideration of the amendment to the claims would not require undue work on the part of the Examiner, and does not constitute an attempt by Applicants to continue prosecution of the application but only seeks to correct claim dependency based upon the amendment entered to place the application into condition for allowance.

The Examiner is accordingly invited to review the same and indicate approval of this amendment after allowance in due course.

If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Hitoshi KUDO et al.


Arnold Turk
Reg. No. 33,094

March 29, 2002
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1941 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191

**APPENDIX
MARKED UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIM 3**

3. (Twice Amended) The reforming apparatus according to claim [2] 1, wherein said raw material reforming unit comprises a generally cylindrical combustion chamber as the heat source and a reforming reaction unit for steam-reforming the raw material to produce the reformed gas containing hydrogen as a principal component, said reforming reaction unit, said shift reaction unit and said CO oxidation unit are concentrically arranged relative to said combustion chamber.